

**University Presbyterian Church
3330 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14214-1316
Phone: (716) 836-7660
Fax: (716) 836-7662**

**www.upcbuffalo.org
office@upcbuffalo.org**



Sunday, August 17, 2025

**The Rev. Tom Yorty, Interim Pastor
Rebecca Kroetsch, Choral Director
Gregory White, Organist**

Services are live-streamed on YouTube at: <https://tinyurl.com/upcbuffalo>

10th Sunday after Pentecost, August 17, 2025
Service for the Lord's Day
10:30 a. m.

AS YOU PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

In order that people may listen to the music or pray in silence without distraction, please refrain from conversation after the music begins and kindly silence all cell phones. Thank you.

Children of all ages are welcome to remain in worship. A playroom is available near the sanctuary for young children who are accompanied by their parents.

Prayer Requests: If you have a prayer request which you would like the pastor to include in "Prayers of the People," please fill out the yellow prayer request slip found in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate when passed. Ushers will take them from the plate and when the offering is brought forward, hand them to the pastor.

If you would like to borrow a hearing device for the worship service, please see one of this morning's Greeters.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude	Rhosymedre <i>Lovely</i>	R. Vaughan Williams
---------	-----------------------------	---------------------

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*please stand if able*)

The word of the Lord is like fire,
like a hammer that smashes a stone.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts. Give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that all people may know the glorious liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn #82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Hyfrydol

Rowland Hugh Prichard

Confession and Pardon

The Invitation:

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; yet we are justified by the gift of God's grace through the redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

The Prayer:

O Lord our God, you call us to proclaim the gospel, but we remain silent in the presence of evil. You call us to be reconciled to you and one another, but we are content to live in separation. You call us to seek the good of all, but we fail to resist the powers of oppression. You call us to fight pretensions and injustice, but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near.

Forgive us, O Lord. Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit, and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

There follows a moment of silent personal confession

The Pardon:

Because we were buried with Christ in these waters, we are also raised to life with him. Believe the gospel!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Amen.**

Hymn #581

Glory Be to the Father

Henry W. Greatorex

*Glory Be to the Father, And to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end.
Amen, Amen.*

Sharing the Peace and Greetings

*As God's forgiven people we extend the peace of Christ
to one another saying, "the peace of Christ be with you".*

Sung response Hymn #822

**Shalom to you now, shalom my friends.
May God's full mercies, bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination:

Loving God, fountain of every blessing,
open us to your life-giving word,
and fill us with your Holy Spirit
so that living water may flow through our hearts—
a spring of hope for a thirsty world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Psalter: Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us. You have
brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and
planted it.**

You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.
**The mountains were covered by its shadow and the
towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

You stretched out its tendrils to the sea
and its branches to the river.
**Why have you broken down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,

and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

**Turn now, O God of hosts,
look down from heaven;**

behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right
hand has planted.

**They burn it with fire like rubbish; at the rebuke of your
countenance let them perish.**

Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one you have made so strong for yourself.

**And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.**

**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

Lord God, you so tend the vine you planted that now it extends
its branches throughout the world. Keep us in Christ as branches
on the vine, that, grafted firmly in your love, we may show the
whole world your great power and bear the fruit of
righteousness; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Readings: Hebrews 11:29-12:2 (p. 226 in the NT of the pew bible)

Luke 12:49-56 (p.75 in the NT of the pew bible)

Solo

Deep River

J. Rosamond Johnson

Sydney Conrad, Soprano

*Deep River, my home is over Jordan. I want to cross over into campground.
Oh, don't you want to go to that gospel feast, that promised land where all is peace?*

Sermon The Three Pillars of Ministry: The Prophet

Hymn #307

God of Grace and God of Glory

John Hughes

CWM Rhondda

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

Voluntary

Cantabile

Benedetto Marcello

Doxology Hymn #606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us
our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Hymn #724

O Jesus, I Have Promised
Angel's Story

Arthur Henry Mann

Benediction

Postlude

Richmond

Healey Willan

A-723910

Participating in Worship

The Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty, Interim Pastor

Rebecca Kroetsch, Choral Director

Gregory White, Organist

Dennis Erickson, Liturgist

Sharon Melius & Tom Somerville, Greeters

Nick Casseri, Live streamer

Next Week:

Amy Erickson, Liturgist

Amy & Dennis Erickson, Greeter

Val Macer, Live streamer

This Week...

Sunday, August 17	10:30 am	Worship Service
	1:00 pm	PFLAG meeting
Tuesday, August 19	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
	1:30 pm	Zoom Ministry to Community Mtg
Wednesday, August 20	7:00 pm	Session
Thursday, August 21	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Sunday, August 24	10:30 am	Worship Service

Food Pantry Needs: The Pantry is in need of the plastic sleeves that the newspaper comes in; they use them when they hand out eggs. They no longer need larger sized plastic bags.

Welcome Visitors

University Presbyterian Church (UPC), the members and officers, welcomes you today. Your presence strengthens our faith and our commitment as Christ's disciples.

University Presbyterian Church welcomes all who seek to follow the Way of Jesus—the way of compassion and justice—regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identification. UPC does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation in celebrating the rites of marriage.

University Presbyterian Church Officers and Staff

The Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty	Interim Pastor
Choral Director	Rebecca Kroetsch
Organist	Gregory White
Treasurer	James W. Smyton
Clerk of Session	Pat Cookfair-Casseri
Stephen Ministry Referral Coordinator	Kathryn F. Hallborg
Administrative Assistant	Peg Kovach
Facilities Manager	Aaron Vivian
Custodian	Roll Tomosso

Mission Statement of University Presbyterian Church

We are a hungry people who receive Christ, the Bread of Life, who sustains us on our journey. We strive to feed as we are fed, sharing the Bread to nourish others in body, mind and spirit.

“Let Us Be Bread”